

- Commercial and Agro-forestry should be covered by the new law.
- Working Plans should be given legal status.
- Forest officers should be given more/direct policing powers.
- The new forest law must take into account India's International obligations as ratified under International Conventions.
- Training of frontline staff such as forest guards, who are the key personnel for enforcement of law.

(d) The recommendations have been sent to the Committee constituted by the Ministry for finalisation of the Draft Forest Bill.

Wheat Buyers

3735. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

- (a) whether free sale of wheat by the Food Corporation of India is made in bulk to the private large scale buyers;
- (b) if so, the details of main ten buyers;
- (c) whether the sale in small packets of 5 kg and 10 Kg to the consumers has been suggested; and
- (d) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic), quantitative restrictions for issue of wheat have been prescribed per buyer per month, from time to time. However, these restrictions were not applicable for issue of wheat from CAP storage under this scheme upto September, 1996 and part of November, 1996.

Since the period for which this information is sought has not been indicated, it is not possible to give the same.

(c) and (d) While reviewing supply position of wheat and wheat products in Delhi, a scheme was made effective from 9.12.96 for distribution of wholemeal Agmark wheat atta in 10 Kg. packs in Delhi through the outlets of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar at a fixed price of Rs. 64/- per pack. Food Secretaries of all States/Union Territories were also requested on 9.12.96 to introduce similar scheme(s) to make wholemeal atta readily available to the consumers at large. Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and National

Consumers Cooperative Federation retail outlets were authorised to sell wheat purchased from F.C.I. in ten Kg. bags.

[Translation]

Incident of Smuggling and Intrusion

3736. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of incidents of smuggling and intrusion reported during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents; and
- (c) the progress made with regard to the construction of security belt on the border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per information of the Border Security Force deployed on the borders the Statewise details of smuggling and infiltration during the last three years are given in the Statement-I attached.

(b) Following steps have been/are being taken :

- (i) Additional Bns. have been sanctioned and deployed under expansion plan to reduce the gaps between the BOPs.
- (ii) Patrolling/Nakas have been increased/intensified.
- (iii) Border patrolling have been intensified by providing jeeps and motor cycles.
- (iv) Mounted patrolling on horses, camels and tractors is being done.
- (v) Observation Post Towers have been erected.
- (vi) Binoculars, Goggles, Twin Telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
- (vii) Border fence and flood lights has been/being done.
- (viii) Intelligence machinery has been alerted to keep closer vigilance.
- (ix) Coast Guard/Indian Navy is patrolling the coastal areas.
- (x) The matter has also been taken up with the Governments of Bangladesh and Pakistan on various occasions.

(c) A Statement-II is enclosed.